

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

1. (Three Times Amended) A positive active material for a lithium secondary battery of which the surface is coated with a metal oxide, wherein the positive active material compound comprises  $\text{Li}_a\text{Ni}_{1-x-y}\text{Co}_x\text{M}_y\text{O}_2$  and M is a metal selected from the group consisting of Al, Mg, Sr, La, Ce, V, and Ti, and  $0 \leq x < 0.99$ ,  $0.01 \leq y \leq 0.1$ , and  $1.00 \leq a \leq 1.1$ , wherein the metal oxide coated on the surface of the compound is an oxide of a metal selected from the group consisting of Mg, Ti, Al, V, Co, K, Ca, Na, and B.